



General Assembly

February Session, 2014

Raised Bill No. 71

LCO No. 138



Referred to Committee on ENVIRONMENT

Introduced by:
(ENV)

***AN ACT CONCERNING ON-LINE EDUCATION OPTIONS FOR
BOATING AND HUNTING SAFETY.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subsection (b) of section 15-140e of the 2014 supplement
2 to the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in
3 lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

4 (b) A safe boating certificate shall be issued under subsection (a) of
5 this section to any applicant regardless of age who provides proof that
6 such applicant has: (1) Successfully completed a classroom or on-line
7 course in safe boating operation approved by the Commissioner of
8 Energy and Environmental Protection, which courses may include
9 those offered by the United States Power Squadrons, Coast Guard
10 Auxiliary or other organizations, or (2) successfully passed an
11 equivalency examination testing knowledge of safe boating operation
12 administered by the commissioner.

13 Sec. 2. Subsection (a) of section 15-140f of the general statutes is
14 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*

15 *passage*):

16 (a) The Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection
17 shall formulate classroom and on-line courses in safe boating
18 operation.

19 Sec. 3. Subsections (c) and (d) of section 15-140j of the general
20 statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof
21 (*Effective from passage*):

22 (c) A certificate of personal watercraft operation shall be issued
23 under subsection (b) of this section to any applicant who provides
24 proof that such applicant has: (1) Successfully completed a combined
25 course in safe boating operation and safe personal watercraft handling
26 approved by the commissioner, which courses include, but are not
27 limited to, classroom or on-line courses offered by the United States
28 Power Squadrons, Coast Guard Auxiliary or other similar
29 organization, (2) been issued or has satisfied the requirements for
30 issuance of a safe boating certificate and successfully completed a
31 course in safe personal watercraft handling approved by the
32 commissioner, which include, but are not limited to, classroom or on-
33 line courses offered by the United States Power Squadrons, Coast
34 Guard Auxiliary or other similar organization, or (3) successfully
35 passed an equivalency examination testing knowledge of safe boating
36 operation and safe personal watercraft handling administered by the
37 commissioner.

38 (d) The commissioner may adopt regulations, in accordance with
39 the provisions of chapter 54, establishing the content of classroom and
40 on-line courses in safe personal watercraft handling. Such regulations
41 may include provisions for examinations, issuance of certificates of
42 personal watercraft operation and establishment of a reasonable fee for
43 such course and examination and for the issuance of a certificate and
44 duplicate certificate.

45 Sec. 4. Subsection (a) of section 26-31 of the general statutes is

46 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
47 *passage*):

48 (a) The Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection
49 shall formulate conservation courses of instruction in safe trapping,
50 hunting and archery practices and the handling and use of traps and
51 hunting implements, including bow and arrow, for such persons as are
52 applying for a license to hunt with firearms or to hunt with bow and
53 arrow or trap for the first time and for minors who fall within the
54 provisions of section 26-38, and shall designate one or more competent
55 persons or organizations to give such instruction. Any person or
56 organization so designated shall give such instruction on-line or in a
57 classroom to any person requesting the same and shall, upon the
58 successful completion thereof, recommend to the commissioner
59 issuance of a certificate of completion to such person. Successful
60 completion of such instruction for hunting license applicants shall
61 include, but not be limited to, achieving a passing grade on an
62 examination formulated by the commissioner, which shall include
63 correctly stating in writing, or reciting orally, the regulations for
64 hunting in proximity to buildings occupied by persons or domestic
65 animals or used for storage of flammable or combustible materials and
66 the regulations for shooting towards persons, buildings or animals.
67 [Any such person or organization may charge any person taking the
68 course of instruction in trapping a reasonable fee, established by
69 regulation adopted by the commissioner in accordance with chapter
70 54, to cover the cost of supplies, materials and equipment necessary for
71 such course of instruction. No fee shall be charged for a course of
72 instruction in hunting or archery.]

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	15-140e(b)
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>	15-140f(a)
Sec. 3	<i>from passage</i>	15-140j(c) and (d)

Sec. 4	<i>from passage</i>	26-31(a)
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Statement of Purpose:

To authorize certain on-line boating and hunting safety courses.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]